

Memorandum of Agreement

This Memorandum of Agreement is entered into between the Nebraska Children and Families Foundation, the Sherwood Foundation, the William and Ruth Scott Family Foundation and the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Division of Children and Family Services.

Purpose: This Memorandum of Agreement establishes and defines a collaborative working relationship between the DHHS Division of Children and Family Services, The Sherwood Foundation, the William and Ruth and Scott Family Foundation and the Nebraska Children and Families Foundation to implement a Four Year Independent Living Plan. The purpose of implementing the Plan is to help youth establish connections to supports and lifelong relationships to successfully transition to adulthood. All Partners agree that the plan will first be implemented in Omaha with the intent to expand efforts to other areas in the State.

The Nebraska Children and Families Foundation partners with local, state and federal partners to listen and engage communities to achieve the best results for children. For the last 6 years, NCFF has been the administrative home of the Statewide Foster Youth Council, working to provide a voice and opportunities to youth in transition to adulthood. NCFF will serve in a liaison position between DHHS and Sherwood Foundation to foster a collaborative working relationship with additional youth serving agencies; provide a youth voice in programs and policies; and strengthen the capacity of the Foster Youth/Independent Living System to ensure successful youth transition into adulthood.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND EXPECTATIONS

NCFF Shall:

- Ensure the program activities and finances of the Omaha Independent Living Plan are in compliance with the requirements of the DHHS Children and Family Services Division, the Sherwood Foundation and the William and Ruth Scott Family Foundation.

- Serve as the coordinator of the Omaha Foster Youth Council, including council, leaders and community partnership meetings.
- Work with youth and community partners to implement all strategies of the Omaha Independent living Plan:
- Provide guidance and governance for the Foster Youth Council to serve as the Youth Board for implementation of the Plan.
- Develop need based mentoring program for Omaha foster youth. Work with Omaha Foster Youth Council to determine areas of need for mentors
- Connect youth to apprenticeships, financial education, youth Individual Development Accounts (IDAs), school liaisons, Medical advocates, community volunteerism, etc.
- Develop materials, presentations, website, and other council development activities.
- Connect to Statewide efforts to implement and sustain Independent Living supports and activities.
- Develop funds for Omaha Foster Youth Council's Need Based Funds, scholarships for camps/retreats at colleges, and other activities that support Omaha foster youth and the Omaha Independent Living Plan.
- Pursue additional Federal Grant Applications that align with Independent Living Plan outcomes and strategies. As additional funds are generated for the Plan, the amount of private dollars provided by current philanthropists will decrease.
- Implement Camp Catch-Up and other Foster Youth events
- Determine effective strategies and characteristics of youth profiles and foster placements and provides matching process for youth to have a voice in their placement via characteristics, mutual interests, and preferences
- Develop action steps that cultivate sibling and kinship bonds of foster youth emphasizing permanency.
- Oversee and provide guidance to contracted services/grants in the Omaha area.
- Report activities and accomplishments according to outcomes and measurable objectives of the Independent Living Plan to the DHHS Division of Children and Family Services, the Sherwood Foundation and the William and Ruth Scott Family Foundation.

Sherwood Foundation and Ruth and William Scott Family Foundation Shall:

Provide \$1,086,900 for year 1 implementation and up to \$10,010,948 over 4 years, to NCFE to implement the Omaha Independent Living Plan. The Sherwood Foundation will assist NCFE and DHHS in carrying out this agreement by working cooperatively with them as outlined and agreed upon in this MOA and Omaha Independent Living Plan as attached.

DHHS Division of Children and Family Services Shall:

Provide \$394,387 for year 1 activities beginning July 1, 2008, and \$261,037 beginning November 1, 2008, for Preparation for Independent Living Services from November 1, 2008, through October 31, 2009, and at least \$4,928,534 over four years for implementation of the entire four year plan, subject to availability of funds. Each year, the partners will revisit this MOA and the budget to determine the exact amount of funds to be allocated annually. The DHHS Division of Children and Family Services will assist NCFE and Sherwood Foundation in carrying out this agreement by working cooperatively as outlined and agreed upon in the Omaha Independent Living Plan as attached. The DHHS Division of Children and Family Services will provide funds as agreed to in the Plan to the Nebraska Children and Family Foundation through a grant given directly to the Foundation entered into apart from this Memorandum of Agreement.

DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS

This MOA is an expression of the intent of the parties as of the date hereof. In order to be binding obligations, the agreements to contribute funds as described in this MOA must be evidenced by separate written agreements between the parties and must comply with all applicable procedures, laws and regulations. Such written agreements will contain, among other items, the periodic reporting requirements for the recipient(s) of the funds.

REVISION AND AMENDMENTS

This MOA may be revised as necessary with the mutual consent of the parties involved by the adoption of a written Amendment signed and dated by both parties. Amendments to this MOA may incorporate subsequent technical proposals, projects, and associated funding actions. An annual

convening of partners will evaluate prior year actions and determine funding amounts based on needs and plans for the upcoming year.

TIME PERIOD

This Memorandum of Agreement shall remain in place from July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2012 unless modified in writing before that date.

TERMINATION

Any party may terminate their participation under this Memorandum of Agreement, at any time with or without cause, by providing 60 days notice, in writing, to the other parties.

SIGNATURES

For the Sherwood Foundation

Kristi Ullin
7/17/08
Date

For the William and Ruth
Scott Foundation

[Signature]
7/23/08
Date

For the Nebraska Children and
Families Foundation

Mary Jo Randohe
7/16/08
Date

For the DHHS Division of
Children and Family Services

Toro A. Candy
7/15/08
Date